

REMARKS

The decision of the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences (Board") on August 15, 2007 affirmed the rejection of claims 29-32 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gundewar et al. (US Patent 6,381,610) in view of Oka (US Patent 5,537,591) Examiner's Official Notice; and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary.

In the appeal with respect to claim 29, Applicants argued that Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner's Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary, because Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner's Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary does not teach or suggest the feature: "wherein said folders and views section, said task title display and selection area, said summary task creation button, and said detailed task creation button visually appear together in a **single contiguous display area** within said playbook summary view" (emphasize added).

In response, the Board stated: "The difficulty with this argument is that it presumes that the phrase "a single contiguous display area" means a single undivided screen. However, the Specification does not give the claimed phrase "single contiguous display area" a meaning other than the customary and ordinary meaning that a person of ordinary skill in the art would give the phrase. FF 1. One of ordinary skill in the art would construe the claimed phrase "single contiguous display area" to mean a single display screen. FF 2. A single display screen, as Appellants have conceded, may be divided. The broadest reasonable construction of the claim in light of the Specification as interpreted by one of ordinary skill in the art encompasses a single divided display screen. Accordingly, the argument that the claim is directed to an "undivided" screen is unpersuasive."

In light of the preceding analysis of the Board, Applicants have replaced “a single contiguous display area” with “an undivided display area” in claim 29, which overcomes the difficulty with Applicants’ argument stated by the Board.

Thus with respect to claim 29, Applicants assert that Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary, because Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice, and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary does not teach or suggest the feature: “wherein said folders and views section, said task title display and selection area, said summary task creation button, and said detailed task creation button visually appear together in **an undivided display area** within said playbook summary view” (emphasize added).

Based on the preceding argument, Applicants respectfully maintain that claim 29 is not unpatentable over Gundewar in view of Oka, Examiner’s Official Notice; and Microsoft Press Computer Dictionary, and that claim 29 is in condition for allowance. Since claims 31-32 depend from claim 29, Applicants contend that claims 31-32 are likewise in condition for allowance.

Applicants note that the rejection of claim 30 is moot, because claim 30 has been canceled.

CONCLUSION

Based on the preceding arguments, Applicants respectfully believe that all pending claims and the entire application meet the acceptance criteria for allowance and therefore request favorable action. If the Examiner believes that anything further would be helpful to place the application in better condition for allowance, Applicants invites the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

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